

LIST OF CURRENT CLAIMS

Claims 1-37 (Canceled)

Claim 38 (Currently Amended): A padlock comprising:

a ~~lock body~~ housing having a first hole and a second hole both in communication with an inside of the housing, the first and second holes both facing in a same direction;

a shackle having a ~~longer arm~~ root section ~~rotatably~~ partly received in said housing via said first hole of said ~~lock body~~ housing, and a ~~shorter arm~~ free section extending from said ~~longer arm~~ root section and being disposed outside said ~~lock body~~ housing; said ~~shorter arm~~ free section being rotatable about said ~~longer arm~~ root section to a locked position and an unlocked position; and

a confining block including a block portion located outside said housing and a stem portion received inside said housing via said second hole and extending from a bottom of said block portion; said block portion ~~rotatably disposed outside said lock body and defining~~ having a receptacle which is outside said housing therein; said receptacle including with a first opening defined in top of said block portion for receiving said ~~shorter arm~~ free section of said shackle when said ~~shorter arm~~ free section is placed in said locked position; and said block portion together with said stem portion ~~being rotatably received in said second hole of said lock body and~~ being rotatable with respect to said housing ~~said block portion simultaneously.~~

Claim 39 (Currently Amended): The padlock of claim 38 further comprising a numeral wheel set disposed in said ~~lock body~~ housing, wherein said numeral wheel set includes:

a shaft being parallel with said stem portion of said confining block and lying diagonally opposite to said block portion of said confining block;

a plurality of inner sleeves in parallel with one another and placed around said shaft; and

a plurality of digit-wheels each mounted around a respective one of said inner sleeves.

Claim 40 (Currently Amended): The padlock of claim 38, wherein said receptacle of said block portion of said confining block further includes a second opening defined in a side of said block portion, and said second opening is in communication with said first opening; said ~~confining~~ block portion is rotatable between a first position wherein said ~~shorter-arm~~ free section of said shackle is prohibited from entrance into or withdrawal from said receptacle of said block portion via said second opening, and a second position wherein said ~~shorter-arm~~ free section of said shackle is allowed to be rotated about said ~~longer-arm~~ root section of said shackle for entrance into or withdrawal from said receptacle of said block portion via said second opening.

Claim 41 (Currently Amended): The padlock of claim 39, wherein said receptacle of said block portion of said confining block further includes a second opening defined in a side of said block portion, and said second opening is in communication with said first opening; said block portion is rotatable between a first position wherein said ~~shorter-arm~~ free section of said shackle is prohibited from entrance into or withdrawal from said receptacle of said block portion via said second opening, and a second position wherein said ~~shorter-arm~~ free section of said shackle is allowed to be rotated about said ~~longer-arm~~ root section of said shackle for entrance into or withdrawal from said receptacle of said block portion via said second opening.